

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
10 February 2005 (10.02.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/012723 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **F03B 13/18,**  
15/00

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/GB2004/003113

(22) International Filing Date: 16 July 2004 (16.07.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0316869.7 18 July 2003 (18.07.2003) GB

(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: KELLY, Hugh-Peter, Granville [GB/GB]; 47  
Crowstone Road, Westcliff on Sea, Essex SS0 8BG (GB).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,

CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,  
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,  
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,  
ZW.

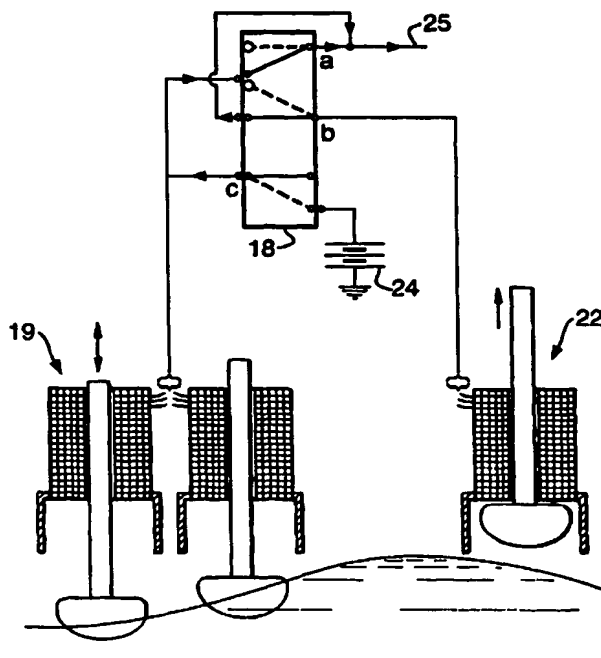
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,  
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,  
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,  
SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,  
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD OF OPERATION FOR A SELF-PROTECTING WAVE ENERGY CONVERSION PLANT



(57) Abstract: A wavefarm (10) comprises a multiplicity of  
wave energy converters, comprising linear generators (19, 20,  
21) and (22) which are driven by floats immersed in the sea,  
(14). In normal wave conditions, all of the generators supply a  
land line (17) via a control unit (18). In the event of inclement  
conditions, one of more of the generators are switched to lin-  
ear motors, and these are then powered by those generators  
remaining in the sea, to withdraw their floats into protective  
cavities (23). The process is repeated sequentially until all  
but the last one or few of the generators have withdrawn their  
floats. Finally, these last are withdrawn by connecting them  
to an alternate power source eg a battery, (24), again via the  
control unit (18).